

**ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND V.A.  
SCHOOL**

**ANTI-BULLYING POLICY**

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APPROVED BY THE GOVERNORS:	May 2017
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## Anti-bullying Policy

**1. Introduction and definition of bullying.** This policy is to be read in conjunction with our

- Behaviour Policy
- Feeling Safe and Happy at School
- Child Friendly Anti Bullying Policy
- Anti-Racist Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Safeguarding Policy

- 1.1** For the purposes of this policy, bullying is persistent behaviour by an individual or a group with the intention of verbally, physically or emotionally harming another person or group.
- 1.2** Bullying is generally characterised by:  
**Repetition** - Incidents are not on-offs; they are frequent and happen over a period of time  
**Intent** - the perpetrator(s) mean to cause verbal, physical or emotional harm; it is not accidental  
**Targeting** – Bullying is generally targeted at a specific individual or group  
**Power Imbalance** – Whether real or perceived, bullying is generally based on unequal power relation
- 1.3** Many kinds of behaviour can be considered bullying and can be related to almost anything. Teasing another child because of their appearance, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual-orientation, home-life, culture , disability or special educational needs are some of the types of bullying that can occur
- 1.4** Bullying can be acted out though the following mediums:
- Verbally
  - Physically
  - Emotionally
  - Online (Cyber)

## **2 Aims and objectives**

- 2.1** Bullying is wrong and damages individual children. We therefore do all we can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.
- 2.2** We aim, as a school, to produce a safe and secure environment where all can learn without anxiety.
- 2.3** This policy aims to produce a consistent school response to any bullying incidents that may occur.
- 2.4** We aim to make all those connected with the school aware of our opposition to bullying, and we make clear each person's responsibilities with regard to the eradication of bullying in our school.

### **3 The role of governors**

- 3.1** The governing body supports the headteacher in all attempts to eliminate bullying from our school. This policy statement makes it very clear that the governing body does not allow bullying to take place in our school, and that any incidents of bullying that do occur are taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately.
- 3.2** The governing body monitors the incidents of bullying that occur, and reviews the effectiveness of the school policy regularly. The governors require the headteacher to keep accurate records of all incidents of bullying and to report to the governors on request about the effectiveness of school anti-bullying strategies.
- 3.3** The governing body responds within ten days to any request from a parent to investigate incidents of bullying. In all cases, the governing body notifies the headteacher and asks him/her to conduct an investigation into the case and to report back to a representative of the governing body.

### **4 The role of the headteacher**

- 4.1** It is the responsibility of the headteacher to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying. The headteacher reports to the governing body about the effectiveness of the anti-bullying policy on request.
- 4.2** The headteacher ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. The headteacher draws the attention of children to this fact at suitable moments. For example, if an incident occurs, the headteacher may decide to use assembly as a forum in which to discuss with other children why this behaviour was wrong, and why a pupil is being punished.
- 4.3** The headteacher ensures that all staff receive sufficient training to be equipped to deal with all incidents of bullying.
- 4.4** The headteacher sets the school climate of mutual support and praise for success, so making bullying less likely. When children feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behaviour.

### **5 The role of the teacher**

- 5.1** Teachers in our school take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place. They keep their own records of all incidents that happen in their class and that they are aware of in the school.
- 5.2** If teachers witness an act of bullying, they do all they can to support the child who is being bullied. If a child is being bullied over a period of time, then, after consultation with the headteacher, the teacher informs the child's parents.

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- 5.3** We keep a behaviour book in the staff room where we record all incidents of bullying that occur at school. If any adult witnesses an act of bullying, they should record the event in the logbook.
- 5.4** If, as teachers, we become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, we deal with the issue immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, and punishment for the child who has carried out the bullying. We spend time talking to the child who has bullied: we explain why the action of the child was wrong, and we endeavour to help the child change their behaviour in future. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, we inform the headteacher or assistant headteacher. We then invite the child's parents into the school to discuss the situation. In situations where two sets of parents are invited into school to discuss an issue, the headteacher or assistant head would be expected to attend the meeting alongside the class teacher. A governor might also be invited to attend the meeting. In more extreme cases, for example where these initial discussions have proven ineffective, the headteacher may contact external support agencies such as the social services or raise the issue with the School Support Team.
- 5.5** The staff review the school's behaviour management policy on an annual basis to ensure that a consistent approach to incidents is followed by all staff.
- 5.6** Teachers attempt to support all children in their class and to establish a climate of trust and respect for all. By praising, rewarding and celebrating the success of all children, we aim to prevent incidents of bullying.

## **6 The role of parents**

- 6.1** Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact their child's class teacher immediately.
- 6.2** Parents have a responsibility to support the school's anti-bullying policy and to actively encourage their child to be a positive member of the school.

## **7 Monitoring and review**

- 7.1** This policy is monitored on a day-to-day basis by the headteacher, who reports to governors about the effectiveness of the policy on request.
- 7.2** This anti-bullying policy is the governors' responsibility and they review its effectiveness annually. They do this by examining the school's behaviour file and by discussion with the headteacher.